

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE **FILED**  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

AUG 21 2008

William B. Guthrie  
Clerk, U.S. District Court

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy Clerk

JOHNNY L. HARDEMAN,

Plaintiff,

v.

CHARLES SANDERS, et al.,


Defendants.

No. CIV 08-086-RAW-SPS

**OPINION AND ORDER**  
**DENYING MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

Plaintiff has filed a motion requesting the court to appoint counsel [Docket No. 43]. He bears the burden of convincing the court that his claim has sufficient merit to warrant appointment of counsel. *McCarthy v. Weinberg*, 753 F.2d 836, 838 (10th Cir. 1985) (citing *United States v. Masters*, 484 F.2d 1251, 1253 (10th Cir. 1973)). The court has carefully reviewed the merits of plaintiff's claims, the nature of factual issues raised in his allegations, and his ability to investigate crucial facts. *McCarthy*, 753 F.2d at 838 (citing *Maclin v. Freake*, 650 F.2d 885, 887-88 (7th Cir. 1981)). After considering plaintiff's ability to present his claims and the complexity of the legal issues raised by the claims, the court finds that appointment of counsel is not warranted. *See Williams v. Meese*, 926 F.2d 994, 996 (10th Cir. 1991); *see also Rucks v. Boergermann*, 57 F.3d 978, 979 (10th Cir. 1995). ACCORDINGLY, plaintiff's motion [Docket No. 43] is DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 2008.

  
RONALD A. WHITE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE